



PAGIS 2011: Planning Meeting Minutes 10-6-10

Attendees: Glenn Mohler, Brady Stroh, Dave Gilbert, Eric Jespersen (phone), Laura Simonetti (phone), Mike Bialousz, Matt Gilara (phone), Ayad Yasser (phone), Nicole Ernst, Steve Ellis, Kristin Woellmer, Con Sweeney (phone), Kathryn Reed (phone), Frank DeSendi, Douglas Heivly,

PAGIS 2011 Planning session at HACC:

- **Conference Format**

- Delaware does one day of conference, then a work shop and another day of conference.
- If we scale back on the conference people get less interested.
- Do we have a dual tract or continue with the existing format? CCAP can set up a dedicated room with laptops for a single workshop area and have dual tract at any location.
- Can we broadcast the conference? Costs a lot (with break out rooms). Possibly just for the plenary session – can live streaming be done? Remote tape for the following year would be good for marketing.
- Should lunch still be provided? Possibly scale back the food costs?
- If a conference is more than one day – there is a need for hotel based conference to allow people to network
- Special interest group meetings have spawned from the conference.
- Having the single plenary session is important.
- Two days of technical session is difficult to fill but incorporating workshop into the same day(s) would help this.
- Networking is a key feature of the conference and the need to have a 2 day conference is there.
- Can the state conference be integrated with the regional conferences? We should work toward this but not reduce the state conference by doing so.

A Motion is made to have a 2 day conference at a hotel in Harrisburg as long as the facility provides exhibitors the ability to integrate. (This is based on the vendor model for support). – There is potential for Grantville Holiday Inn. Kristin and Steve will visit Grantville Holiday Inn next Friday and gather detailed info. Workshops can be before the conference and/or integrated.

Web site for the conference has always been PSU but PAMAGIC can do with Kristen's help.

- **Theme (tracts) - Needed by end of the month (ASAP)**

- Economic Regrowth
- ROI
- (next week NW GIS conference)
- (PAMAGIC GeoSpatial Town meeting is October 28th)
- Digital Infrastructure is recommended by Con. All agree this will be the theme.

- **Venue :** Normally the contract with the hotel would have already been signed by this time. CCAP is prepared to sign the Contract for Venue. CCAP needs to ensure the best chance for success. This means we need to decide within the next month.
- HACC Midtown: new building with computer labs available plus class room, wireless, exhibitor space and conference rooms. No hotels are right by but relatively close. Break out sessions are available but limited for plenary session. Next door there is potential room (with cost). HACC would be no cost. This location would be good for bringing in more academic side. Parking is available during the break session. Down side of HACC is lack of plenary session and the need for moving between buildings.
- HACC conference facility is available (one day conference + 2 workshop days)
- State College: Penn Stater (available time: one cost per person for the whole day includes everything. Cost is based on number of attendees. Works like CCAP does). Discount rate will be available. End of April is only time availablefollowing Easter. Nittany Lion Inn is not an option based on the number of people.
- Radisson has no dates open in May – They are checking into June.
- Holiday Inn East (Harrisburg): told not to go there....
- **Grantville (Harrisburg) Holiday Inn: May 9 – 11, May 16-18, May 23 – 25. First two dates \$99 per night. Last one is \$89 per night. Tuesday, Wednesday session is possible. Workshop and vendor set up can be on Monday. \$40 per exhibitor. CCAP will schedule a time with them to cover the internet and power problems there in the past. Capacity is not an issue: 55 8x8 table tops or 55 8x10 exhibitor tables.**
- Marriot in Lancaster is a new facility also mentioned.

General Conference trends: Amount spent per exhibitor is down. Number of exhibitors is also down. Number of attendees is down as well. (Last year's total was 250 down from 320 in previous years) Exhibitors were down from 42 to 20s. There is a need to expand the type of exhibitor and attendee to include more than just GIS tech professionals.

**PAMAPPS will focus on increasing Exhibitor support.
PAMAGIC will focus on increasing Attendee support.**

Next Concall: Monday, Oct. 18th at 11am